

## Approved Hudson Sewer Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: September 10, 2009

### Attendees:

Bernie Manor, Chair  
Catherine Valley, Vice Chairman  
William Abbott  
Don Gowdy - Absent  
John Parkhurst, Alternate Member - Absent  
Craig T. Bailey, Secretary - Absent  
Roger Coutu - Selectman's Liaison  
Gary Webster – Acting Town Engineer  
Donna Staffier-Sommers – Administrative Aide



The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Hudson Sewer Utility Committee was held Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:34 pm, in the main meeting room of the Town of Hudson Town Hall. The Chairman Bernie Manor being in the chair. Secretarial duties were provided by Donna Staffier-Sommers, and were typed later by Craig T. Bailey. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved with minor corrections required. A motion was made by Bill Abbott to "Accept the meeting minutes for meeting dated August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 as corrected." The motion carried unanimously.

### 1. Abatements and Waivers

- A. Abatement request S-UTL-10-01 had been deferred from the August 13<sup>th</sup> 2009 meeting. Applicant requests an abatement of sewer charges in the amount of \$30.95 on the basis of a pool fill using 26hcf. ( $26 \times 1.1905 = \$30.95$ ). The request was deferred because the pool size was not originally indicated. The applicant subsequently provided the pool permit to complete the application. Catherine Valley moved "To recommend that the Selectmen approve the abatement S-UTL-10-01." The motion carried without discussion.
- B. Abatement request S-UTL-10-02: 23 Executive Drive, Acct. # 4836. Application was made by the Town of Hudson to request abatement and refund of sewer charges on the basis of incorrect billing. The owner was billed for a 1 ½" meter when he had a 1" meter. This was discovered during a water meter change out by the Water Utility. Request amount of difference charged for the two meter sizes for 1 year based on policy. ( $\$73.82 - \$37.20 = 36.62 \times 4 \text{ quarters} = \$146.48$ ) Bill Abbot moved "To recommend that the Selectmen approve the abatement S-UTL-10-02." Seconded by Catherine Valley, the motion carried unanimously.
- C. Abatement request S-UTL-10-03: Neve, 30 Sutherland Dr. Acct.# 5637. Applicant requests an abatement of sewer charges in the amount of \$8.33 on the basis of a pool fill. The pool was filled with 5,455 gallons of water or 7hcf. ( $7 \times 1.1905 = \$8.33$ ) Bill Abbot moved "To recommend that the Selectmen not approve the abatement S-UTL-10-03, on the basis of the \$15 minimum abatement request policy." Seconded by Catherine Valley, the motion carried unanimously. The policy will be attached to the approved minutes.

### 2. Reports

- A. The Treasurers' report dated 08/19/2009 was reviewed by the committee. A question was raised by Catherine Valley as to what the two Fairpoint payments listed on the check register for the month of July were. Selectman Coutu also questioned the payment, since



#### 4. New Business

##### A. Budget discussion:

The committee reviewed the expenditure report in preparation for the budget. Donna explained the status of the 5561 accounts. The postage amount will have to be increased. The high volume of certified mailings has over expended this line item for the past two years. The investment expense was also over expended this past year.

Based on a discussion with Jess Forence of the Hudson Department of Public works, sewer foreman, Donna mentioned that there would not be a significant increase for projects or equipment in the 5562 & 5564 accounts in FY 2011. He plans to repair and or replace sewer lines on two streets, possibly three, as he has done in the past. This is to be coordinated with the Street Division to ensure enough funds are reserved for paving these projects.

There was discussion about the vac-con truck and what we can do to purchase it. The Sewer Utility has reserved monies for the past few years to pay their share of the equipment. The Street division of the Highway Department needs to pay a share. The voters turned down a warrant request to do so this past March. It is a necessary piece of equipment and Roger will look into what other options we have to obtain it.

Some discussion was had about moving the money normally allotted to 5564-450 (presently \$200,000) to 5564-624 to increase that line item to \$600,000 in the FY 2011 budget. This would help ensure that we have adequate funds for capital repairs at the Nashua Treatment Plant should the need arise. Steve Malizia, Town Administrator made this suggestion. This would not alleviate the responsibility of Nashua to keep us informed. This would allow us to have money identified in the budget to pay these bills without any additional increase in the overall budget. It would also help us to avoid requesting permission from the DRA for over expenditure, as we have done in the past.

B. Discussion regarding a potential meeting with City of Nashua and Town of Hudson sewer department: Committee reviewed correspondence with Nashua regarding meeting with them to review their anticipated capital projects. They were not prepared to meet with us at this time. We will try again in October.

C. Trustees meeting: The committee also reviewed the request and response from the Trustees regarding the Committee's invitation to the Trustees to come to a Sewer Utility Committee meeting. Len Lathrup, one of the Trustees, may be able to attend the October meeting. The committee reviewed the investment invoice and will ask the Trustees questions when they attend our meeting.

#### 5. Closing

A. Members agreed that this was a good meeting, and after closing comments by committee members, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

B. Next scheduled meeting: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

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Craig T. Bailey, Secretary